

St Timothy's Parish Roxborough.  
Its Origin and Growth.  
by Mrs. J. Straden.

It has been said that the Sunday School is the nursery of the Church. It is an interesting fact that St Timothy's Parish began its existence when the forty children and eight teachers gathered together as a Sunday School, under the supervision of Mr and Mrs R. Rodney King in the dining-room of the summer residence of Mr J. Vaughan Merrick on a drench Sunday Nov 29th 1859. [In the month of March 1860, four months afterward the number of the school had increased until there were seventy names on the roll. The school was then removed to a building known as the "Old Poor House", at the corner of Ridge Avenue and Hermit Street. From the beginning there was a general interest in the school manifested by the children and their parents,

which together with the religious wants  
 of those in charge of the school led to the  
 establishment of a Church service on each  
 Sunday afternoon. The first of these services  
 was held on the 22<sup>d</sup> of April 1860, by Rev  
 J. M. Claxton, then, Rector of St. Davids, Man-  
 ayunc. On the 31<sup>st</sup> day of May 1860, a meeting  
 of the signers of 'Articles of Association' for  
 Church purposes (12 in number) was held at the  
 residence of Mr King. The following persons  
 were present, Messrs W. Rodney King, A. K. B.  
 Ogle, A. A. Ripka, S. J. Babcock, C. H. Mill-  
 er, W. F. Griffiths Jr, J. Maughan, Merrick,  
 F. J. Cauffman, B. P. McCullough, Samuel  
 Wagner Sr, J. Curran Rodney, and A.  
 Hempley. A Committee [of three] was appointed  
 to prepare Articles of incorporation, and to  
 obtain a Charter under the title of "St  
 Timothy's Roxborough." The Charter was  
 granted February 5<sup>th</sup> 1861. Immediately  
 upon the granting of the Charter, a meeting

of the twelve Gentlemen above named  
 was held and an organization effected.  
 The Bye-laws previously proposed were  
 adopted, and the working machinery of  
 [St Timothy's] Parish (Roxborough was completed,  
 and put in operation. The Committee (of three,  
 appointed [at the May meeting to consider  
 the best mode of conducting the Parish work  
 consisting of Messrs Merrick, Babcock, and  
 Miller,] made their report at this meeting,  
 recommending that before an attempt was  
 made to build a Church edifice, a Clergy-  
 man should be invited to take temporary  
 charge of the Parish, with a view of ascertain-  
 ing by actual experiment the probability  
 of successfully establishing a self supporting  
 Parish, This recommendation having been  
 concurred in, the Rev J Leighton McKim,  
 was elected Rector. On April 1st 1861, the  
 first Vestry was elected as follows Messrs  
 J. Vaughan Merrick, J. J. Cauffman, S. B.  
 Babcock, J. Derwal Rodney, J. Cecil Andrews.

Charles A. Miller, W. F. Griffiths Jr.  
 D. Rodney King, Samuel Wagner Sr, A. K.  
 B. Ogle, R. P. McCullough, and Andrew, A.  
 Kipka. In May 1861. the Parish was ad-  
 mitted to Union with the Diocesan Convention.  
 From the records of the Vestry we read that  
 at a meeting held on April 24th 1862, it  
 was resolved to take steps to obtain funds  
 for building a church, which should be  
 forever free! the Building to have seating  
 room for two hundred and twenty five persons,  
 and the Cost not to exceed \$ 3500 - [Further  
 on we read that the successful raising of  
 the Building Fund was greatly aided by the  
 zeal and energy of the Ladies of the Parish.]  
 [And here it is to be noted that Subscriptions  
 to the building fund were authorized on  
 condition that the sittings of the Church  
 should be free forever.] On the 21st of Dec  
 1862, the resignation of the Rector Rev Mr  
 McKim took effect, and he was succeeded  
 by the Rev Samuel Hall, who entered upon

his duties May 3rd 1863. On the  
14th day of February 1863, the Church  
was consecrated by the Right Rev Bishop  
William Bacon Stevens, there also being  
present the Rev Henry Polman, Foggo,  
Morris, Lundy, Bonnell, and Drs Hare,  
Vaughan, Austin and Rodney. Strangers  
as it may appear the records of the Vestry  
show that on February 24th 1863, only ten  
days after the consecration of the Church they adopted  
("for reasons not given") a scale of rentals for 178  
sittings reserving 68 free sittings. The  
Minutes of the Vestry for several years fol-  
lowing are full of resolutions deploring  
the constant deficiencies, and containing  
the customary pleadings and devices for  
relief. On the 7th of May 1867. the Rev  
Samuel <sup>Wm</sup> Hall resigned the Rectorship  
[of the Parish. <sup>and</sup> He] was succeeded by the  
Rev William Augustus White, who entered upon  
his duties [as Rector] July 21st 1867. On the 26th  
of March 1868, the few rents were advanced

fifty per cent, but this did not reduce the chronic deficiencies. The financial condition of the Parish, was in such a state that at a meeting held April 26th 1869, it was determined to resort to envelopes for pledges to be taken up in the Collection, on one Sunday of each month, in addition to the already existing sources of income. This also failed to furnish the needed relief to the finances. In the midst of all the discouragements incident to a Parish struggling for existence, there were true hearts patiently awaiting the time when a return could be made to the principles of the founders of the Parish. This time came <sup>for long</sup> on the 8th of November 1872 nearly <sup>ten</sup> twelve years <sup>later</sup> after its incorporation, a resolution was introduced in the Vestry demanding that a return be made to the free seat system as originally designed. The resolution was submitted to the Congregation, and a very large majority concurred to the change. Whitsunday 1873, St Timothy's was made free to all, and from that time formed its growth and usefulness.

have been rapid and full of encouragement.  
 The Rev (William<sup>Mr</sup> Augustus) White resigned the  
 Rectorship [of the Parish] Nov 11th 1877. The  
 present Rector Rev Robert Evans Dennison,  
 was elected Assistant Minister April 11th 1875  
 and Rector (of the Parish,) on March 6th 1878.  
 Mr Dennison came to the Parish in the full vigor  
 of his manhood, and for the past twelve years  
 has labored with unremitting zeal in the im-  
 portant field to which he was called, It is only  
 fair to say that it is due to his great work of  
 labor, and love for the Master, to his earnestness,  
 and wisdom, that the Parish owes its increasing  
 usefulness. The Tower of the Church was built  
 in 1871, [the corner stone being laid on August  
 7th of that year.] A new Organ was also built  
 (a memorial gift) and used for the first time on  
 Christmas-day 1871. [St Timothy's Working men's  
 Club and Institute was organized Nov 20-1873.  
 The first extension of the Church edifice, giving  
 one hundred and forty additional sittings was  
 dedicated on Sunday August 16th 1874, its cost



\$ 3586.11. (<sup>being</sup> the gift of a Parishioner) The beautiful  
 Baptistry built in 1874 was a "Memorial gift to  
 the Church". The first Baptism in it was on  
 November 13<sup>th</sup> (1874). At the same time a handsome  
 and commodious Parish Building of similar <sup>in</sup> Archi-  
 tecture and Material to the Church Building was  
 completed taking the place of an old wooden <sup>structure</sup> building  
 previously used (for that purpose.) At the Vestry  
 Meeting held on September 17<sup>th</sup> 1875, a resolution  
 was (proffered and) adopted to keep the Church open  
 daily from sunrise to sunset. The corner stone of  
 the new Club Building was laid on April the 7<sup>th</sup>  
 1877. The entire cost of this Building was nearly  
 \$ 19000, of which about two thirds with the ground  
 was given for the purpose. The foundation  
 Stone of the <sup>second</sup> last extension of the Church, was  
 laid on July 19<sup>th</sup> 1885, and it was dedicated and  
 used for the first time, on St Timothy's Day  
 January 24<sup>th</sup> 1886, at the same time the Parish  
 Building was nearly doubled in size. The cost  
 of the <sup>addition</sup> new extension to the Church and Parish Building

the Free [Church] system, might do well to  
 ponder carefully the above figures. This Church  
 is open daily throughout the year, from sunrise to  
 sunset, for private devotion. [The Seats in the  
 Church are all free and open at all times]. The  
 Services are maintained, and the work of the Parish  
 carried on, exclusively, by means of the offerings  
 collected during the services. Envelopes [in packages,  
 for weekly use,] are furnished quarterly by the Rector;  
 but those who use them, make no pledges as to the <sup>amount</sup>  
 sum to be placed in them. Special envelopes are  
 provided [at the door of the Church] marked for  
 the purpose, each month having a special  
 object designated. St Timothy's [Church]  
 stands on a beautiful lot having a frontage on  
 Ridge Avenue of 231 feet, and commanding a  
 fine view of the surrounding country. The Church  
 Building is composed of Nave, Aisles, Apsidal-  
 Chancel, Vesting room, and Porch, and will  
 seat over five hundred [persons]. The Nave (is  
<sup>covered</sup> roofed) with a ridge roof as far as the last

extensions, and the Aisles with lean to roofs; the junction of the Nave and Aisle roofs is supported by framing of wooden posts with arched braces, giving the interior effect of Columns supporting arches. The last extension was at the west end of the Nave and consisted of a square stone lantern, or low tower with battlements of Terra-Cotta supported on iron beams [resting on] <sup>and</sup> granite piers, the lean-to Aisle roof extending along sides. The walls are of a blue-grey stone [well] laid in rubble work, and pointed with colored <sup>Cement</sup> Mortar. The string course, dressings, and arches, are of pressed brick. The roof is laid in dark purple slate, varied with courses and patterns in crimson [slate], and the ridge is capped with red cresting tiles, formed with openings for ventilation. The wood-work of the main frame is of white pine, throughout, carefully stained. The roof is a principal rafter roof, framed without common rafters, the ceiling resting

directly on the purlins, and an air space being left between it and the slate boarding, for the sake of ventilation and warmth. The ceiling is of handsome, narrow Carolina pine. The bench ends and rails are of ash. The floors are laid in colored tiles. The Church is in the style known as the early <sup>English</sup> Decorated Gothic, and was designed by Mr Emilius T. Littell, architect, of New York, who was also architect of the extensions. The sanctuary of the present Chancel occupies the whole of the original apsidal Chancel. The Choir which is extended out into the Church occupies two bays of Columns and is separated from the Nave by a wood-screen. Ample room is given for the Clergy and a vested Choir. All the floors in Chancel and Nave are laid in encaustic tiles.

The Corporation  
Rector.

Rev Robert Evans Kennison  
Assistant Minister

Rev A. O. Riddel, x  
Wardens

J. Vaughan Merriek, Rector's Warden  
Wm Penn, Stroud, Accounting Warden

Vestrymen  
Wm H. Merriek,  
Samuel Wagner  
Wm H. Luch.

Jesse Pearson  
N. Masters Camas  
Dr R. R. Bunting.  
Jno. J. Strader.  
Walter Baumann.

James L. Klewes Jr  
W. Egbert Mitchell, Secretary.  
John Walker, Sexton.  
Parish Work.

Church Services.

Sundays 7-9-10.30. A.M. and 4 P.M.  
(5. P.M. from June to October) In Lent and  
Advent also at 7.45 P.M.

## Work days

7. A. M. Thursdays and Saturdays  
 9. A. M. Daily  
 7.30 P. M. Wednesday  
 4 - P. M. Friday (5 P. M. June to October)

## Holy Communion

Every Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> Celebration 7. A. M.  
 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> 2<sup>d</sup> do 10.30 A. M.  
 2<sup>d</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> 2<sup>d</sup> do 9 - A. M.  
 Saints days — 9 - A. M.

Holy days — 10.30 - A. M.  
 Thursdays and Saturdays 7 - A. M.  
 In Lent

Daily Services at 9. A. M. and 4 - P. M.  
 Wednesday evenings 7.30 "

Holy Communion on Tuesdays Thursdays  
 and Saturdays at 7. A. M. Good Friday at  
 10.30. A. M. Service from 12 - M. to 3 P. M.

## Guilds

Guild of St Albans for Men 2<sup>d</sup> Tuesday of each Month 8 P. M.  
 St Ambrose Guild for Young Men 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of each Month 8 P. M.

St Ambrose Junior for Boys Saturdays 2 P.M.,  
 St Agnes for Young Women 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of Each Month 8 P.M.  
 St Agnes Junior for Girls 2<sup>o</sup> " " " "  
 St Mary's Guild for little Girls Saturdays 9. A.M.  
 Connected with St Mary's Guild is an industrial  
 school, for teaching the young girls of the Parish  
 to sew. St Margaret's Guild, meets annually  
 on the Feast of the Purification, and at other  
 times at the call of the Warden. A beneficial  
 branch is connected with this guild that  
 gives sick benefits to its members.  
 An Altar Ward is in successful operation,  
 which supplies Altar Linen, Vestments, and  
 Embroideries at moderate cost. The Sunday  
 School and Bible Classes meet at 3 o'clock P.M.  
 St Timothy's Parish School, was founded in  
 1873, and is [designed to] furnish an education  
 at least as good as that given in the Public  
 Primaries, and at the same time give such  
 religious training as can only be furnished  
 in a Church School. The School is opened  
 every day in the Parish Church, with the

Morning Prayers. The Catechism is  
 taught and instruction given by the Clergy.  
 The School is entirely free both in tuition  
 and books, and is open to all Children in  
 the Neighborhood. There is a Kindergarten  
 connected with the Parish School, Children  
 between the ages of four and six years are  
 admitted free. <sup>They are admitted by certificate</sup> St. Timothy's Workingmen's  
 Club and Institute, was founded in 1873,  
 and occupied its new Building, Ridge Avenue  
 and Varior Street in 1877. Altho open to men  
 of all shades of opinion, it is nevertheless a  
 parochial organization of which the Rector  
 of the Parish is President, Its Membership  
 numbers over two hundred. The rooms are open  
 every week-day evening, except Christmas and  
 Good Friday. The Monthly dues are 25 Cents, An  
 excellent library, papers and periodicals, billiards,  
 pool and other games are provided, A series  
 of Entertainments are given during the winter  
 months. There is also a Beneficial Society  
 connected with the Club, the dues of which